

other coworkers in the break room climb up into a false ceiling. Only after they had climbed into the ceiling did Victor try and do the same but fell. Before he knew it, terrorists stormed into the break room and took him hostage.

They tied up his hands and feet. The next day the terrorists placed a ring of explosives around his neck before loading him into a vehicle to take him to another part of the gas plant. Victor never made it—the terrorists blew him up along the way.

We may like to think so, but none of us really know if we would put others before ourselves if we were faced with a life or death situation like Victor was. But we know what Victor did. We know what he chose. In all, Victor's quick thinking and acts of selflessness helped save the lives of four of his coworkers.

Selflessness wasn't something that all of a sudden came upon Victor in this moment either. It marked him as a man, a brother, a husband, and a father. Selflessness was a part of who he was. No, this ultimate trial simply exposed what was already there. Victor was a man who lived his life serving others. So it was only fitting that in his final hours, we were blessed to see one last and heroic act of selflessness in Victor's life.

Victor is survived by his wife, Maureen, and his two children, Erin and Grant. To his family I want to say that my thoughts and prayers are with you on this painful day. We have not forgotten your heroic husband and father.

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes:

H. Res. 40, Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule. Had I been present, I would have voted "NO" on this bill.

H. Res. 40, Rule Providing for consideration of both H.R. 78—SEC Regulatory Accountability Act and H.R. 238—Commodity End-User Relief Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "NO" on this bill.

H.R. 39, TALENT Act of 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted "YES" on this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, on January 11, 2017, I missed three votes in order to attend the testimony of my colleagues Sen. BOOKER and Rep. LEWIS in opposition to the confirmation of Sen. SESSIONS for Attorney General. Had I been present, I would have voted NO on the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question, NO on H. Res. 40, and YES on H.R. 39, the TALENT Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for roll call vote 32 on Wednesday, January 11, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on roll call vote 32.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I regrettably missed votes on H.R. 5, the Regulatory Accountability Act on Wednesday, January 11, 2017. I had intended to vote "no" on Roll Call vote 35, "no" on vote 36, "yes" on vote 37, "yes" on vote 38, "yes" on vote 39, "yes" on vote 40, "yes" on vote 41, "yes" on vote 42, "yes" on vote 43, "yes" on vote 44, and "no" on vote 45.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I erroneously voted "yes" on roll call vote 36, an amendment to H.R. 5 offered by Mr. Peterson of Minnesota. I intended to vote "no" on the amendment.

HESPERIA PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEMBER REBEKAH SWANSON

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 10 years of service of outgoing Hesperia Parks and Recreation Board Member Rebekah Swanson. Rebekah was elected to the Hesperia City Council this past November and is stepping down from her current position on the board.

Rebekah was first elected to the Hesperia Parks and Recreation Board in 2006. Since that time, Rebekah has vociferously fought to improve the quality of recreation programs within the city, culminating in the construction of competition level soccer fields. She also championed better utilization of Hesperia's Civic Park and spearheaded improvements to all of the parks throughout the district. Perhaps her most impressive achievement was that she, along with her colleagues on the board, accomplished these important projects without raising taxes or exceeding the district's budget.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I would like to thank Rebekah for her

leadership and tireless advocacy for the people of Hesperia. I look forward to working closely with her in her new role as a member of the Hesperia City Council.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF TYRUS WONG

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Tyrus Wong—father, artist, and an inspirational American—who passed away on Friday, December 30, 2016.

Tyrus was born as Wong Gen Yeo on October 25, 1910 in Guangdong Province, China. A decade later, he and his father came to the United States in search of a better economic future. Forced to travel under the false identity Look Tai Yow, Tyrus and his father were able to overcome the obstacles of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 through luck and perseverance. They began in San Francisco, were separated shortly, but reunited and moved to Sacramento where his teacher Americanized "Tai Yow" to "Tyrus".

They eventually arrived in Los Angeles, where his father taught him art and trained him in calligraphy. While in junior high, Tyrus's drawing talent was recognized by a teacher who helped him receive a summer scholarship to the Otis Art Institute (located in my district) in Los Angeles. He found his calling and studied there for five years while working as a janitor before graduating in the 1930s.

Among friends, Tyrus founded the Oriental Artists' Group of Los Angeles to provide an opportunity for artists to exhibit their work, which was unparalleled exposure for Asian artists during that time. This group was dispersed, however, during World War II.

Before joining Disney in 1938, Tyrus was an artist for the Works Progress Administration from 1936 to 1938. Tyrus's moment came in the late 1930s when Disney started working on the now famous movie Bambi. Inspired by the landscape paintings of the Song Dynasty, he painted the masterpiece that Bambi became. While he was unofficially promoted to the rank of inspirational sketch artist, he contributed much more and influenced the movie from all aspects.

In 1941, Disney fired Tyrus after the employees' strike. From 1942, Tyrus was employed at Warner Brothers before he retired in 1968. In retirement, Tyrus continued to create art and was famous for building beautiful kites. He also created cards for Hallmark and painted Asian-inspired designs on dinnerware. As a testament to Tyrus's impressive work, Disney honored him in 2001 with the prestigious Disney Legend.

Tyrus is survived by his three daughters, Kay Fong, Tai-Ling Wong, and Kim Wong and two grandchildren. I hope his family can rest knowing his story is an inspiration for all Americans. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Tyrus Wong's incredible and resilient life.

INTRODUCTION OF THE VETERANS
EMERGENCY TREATMENT ACT**HON. DAN NEWHOUSE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Veterans Emergency Treatment (VET) Act. One of the most important functions of our federal government is to support and sustain those who have been willing to sacrifice all they have to defend our nation. Whenever our government fails to meet this responsibility, swift action must be taken. Far too many stories of our nation's veterans receiving inadequate care have plagued the Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA). My legislation seeks to improve one aspect of treatment for our men and women who have served in uniform. The VET Act will ensure every veteran is afforded the highest level of emergency care at all emergency-capable medical facilities under the jurisdiction of the Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA).

The VET Act applies the statutory requirements of the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA) to emergency care provided by the VA to enrolled veterans. EMTALA was enacted by Congress as part of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 and is designed to prevent hospitals from transferring, or "dumping," uninsured or Medicaid patients to public hospitals. The legislation requires a hospital to conduct a medical examination to determine if an emergency medical condition exists. If such a condition does exist, the hospital is required to either stabilize the patient or comply with the statutory requirements of a proper transfer. If an emergency medical condition still exists and has not been stabilized, the hospital may not transfer the patient unless the patient, after being made aware of the risks, makes a transfer request in writing or a physician certifies that the medical benefits of a transfer outweigh the risks.

It has become clear that the VA is not fulfilling the EMTALA directive. All too frequently, the policy is to turn down those who try to access an emergency room. In February of 2015, 64-year-old Army veteran Donald Siefken, from Kennewick, WA, arrived at the Seattle VA hospital emergency room in severe pain and with a broken foot that had swollen to the size of a football. No longer able to walk, he requested emergency room staff assist him in traveling the ten feet from his car to the emergency room. Hospital personnel promptly hung up on him after stating that he would need to call 911 to assist him at his own expense. Several minutes later a Seattle fire captain and three firefighters arrived to assist him into the emergency room.

The VET Act will amend current law to remove the "non-participating" designation from VA hospital facilities and statutorily require them to fulfill the requirements of EMTALA. My commonsense and straightforward legislation will ensure that every enrolled veteran who arrives at the emergency department of a VA medical facility indicating an emergency condition exists is assessed and treated in an effort to prevent further injury or death.

I urge all members to join me in supporting this legislation. We must ensure our veterans are treated fairly and with the respect they deserve.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF VICTOR CORSIGLIA, JR.**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, a mere 62 years ago young Victor Corsiglia Jr. proudly graduated from Stanford Medical School and, in 1956, began a lifetime of practicing medicine. This month, his long practice is ending in retirement.

Vic and his wife, Joan, a registered nurse, first served their country when Vic served as a doctor for the Marines at Camp Pendleton right after graduation. In 1961, they made their way back home to San Jose.

Vic and Joan have never been the kind of people who expect others to do the work. They made immense contributions to our local arts world. Vic volunteered for the San Jose Arts Commission, served as a board member for the San Jose Symphony and, along with Ken Wiener and Barbara Day Turner, founded the San Jose Chamber Orchestra. While serving on the San Jose Arts Commission, Vic brought together Jim Reber and Clay Feldman, who founded the San Jose Repertory Theatre. Joan was also active with the San Jose Symphony and was instrumental in restoring its auxiliary. It is not an exaggeration to say that absent the many contributions of Joan and Vic Corsiglia, the artistic life of our community would have been much poorer.

Joan and Vic also took a great interest in the overall health of the community. Vic served on the Santa Clara County Mental Health Board for many years. Joan, as a neighborhood activist, but also as a nurse who understood the need for effective care, worked for decent care for the mentally ill in group homes.

Joan Corsiglia, with Vic by her side, helped found the Campus Community Association (CCA), one of the first active neighborhood associations in the city of San Jose. CCA grew to become an effective grassroots organization in the Naglee Park neighborhood, protecting the quality of life in this downtown neighborhood. The CCA founded the Naglee Park Fourth of July Parade. Before the parade begins, there is a traditional Coyote Creek Run, first initiated by Vic and Mike McDonald. Joan's civic engagement also included chairing the SJSU Campus-Community Task Force in the 1970s, and working on various local political campaigns, including the election of San Jose's first female mayor, Janet Gray Hayes. Joan served as an aide for Mayor Hayes and later for Mayor Susan Hammer.

Vic and Joan also made an invaluable contribution to local parks when, along with David Pandori and Kathy Muller, Joan helped create the Guadalupe River Park Gardens.

Vic and Joan raised four children in the Naglee Park neighborhood, and all four grew up to follow their parents into careers in the medical professions.

What a mark Vic Corsiglia has made as a member of the medical profession. As a leader of the San Jose Medical Group, he ensured that institutions dedicated to patient well-being would exist and flourish even after his retirement.

As a practicing physician, Vic has been a model of what a doctor should be. Modern in-

surance schemes don't always compensate the internal medicine physician when a patient is hospitalized. But that never stopped Vic from always attending to any patient who was hospitalized. Vic was always on duty to his patients and cared about them as human beings.

Vic Corsiglia has been a doctor who is really obsessive about keeping up with the latest in medicine and he's also a physician who takes the time to thoroughly explore every patient's symptoms, to understand just what is going on with a patient. That may be why Vic Corsiglia is known to have an almost uncanny ability to diagnose ailments, even obscure ones, among his patients. If you don't know what's wrong with you, but you know something is wrong, Vic is the man to see.

In the 56 years he has practiced medicine at the San Jose Medical Clinic, he has saved countless lives and has engendered the gratitude and trust of thousands of patients.

One of them is me. I am grateful that in December of 1980 Vic saved my life just as I am grateful that he has helped heal me and my family so many times over the years. To say we will miss him as a physician does not really capture the sense of loss all of his patients feel. However, I count myself among the lucky because although Vic Corsiglia is retiring from the practice of medicine, he is not retiring from being my neighbor and my friend. I know that Vic and Joan Corsiglia will have many new ventures and adventures before them and I hope to share some of them.

Please join me in recognizing Vic and Joan for their decades of service to our community.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL PAUL E.
BELL**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Paul Edward Bell, Colonel, U.S. Air Force (Retired), who passed away in California on November 16, 2016. Col. Bell dedicated thirty-three years of his life to serve in our military and he will be deeply missed.

Shortly after his high school graduation, Col. Bell enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps as an aviation cadet. During World War II, Col. Bell served as a B-24 crew member. Throughout the war, he participated in conflicts on the islands of Morotai, Indonesia and Okinawa, Japan, as well as in support of the final bombing offensive in the Pacific. Col. Bell flew 251 combat missions amassing 862 combat hours in fighter, bomber and rotary wing aircraft. His awards and decorations included the Legion of Merit with four oak leaf clusters, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Air Medal with eleven oak leaf clusters, just to name some of the many medals he received.

Even after leaving the military, Col. Bell continued his public service through his participation in numerous community, military support groups and veteran's organizations. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Elks and the Newcomen Society. He was an area vice president for the California Air Force Association; was on the governing boards of the Silver Eagles, the March Field Air Museum,